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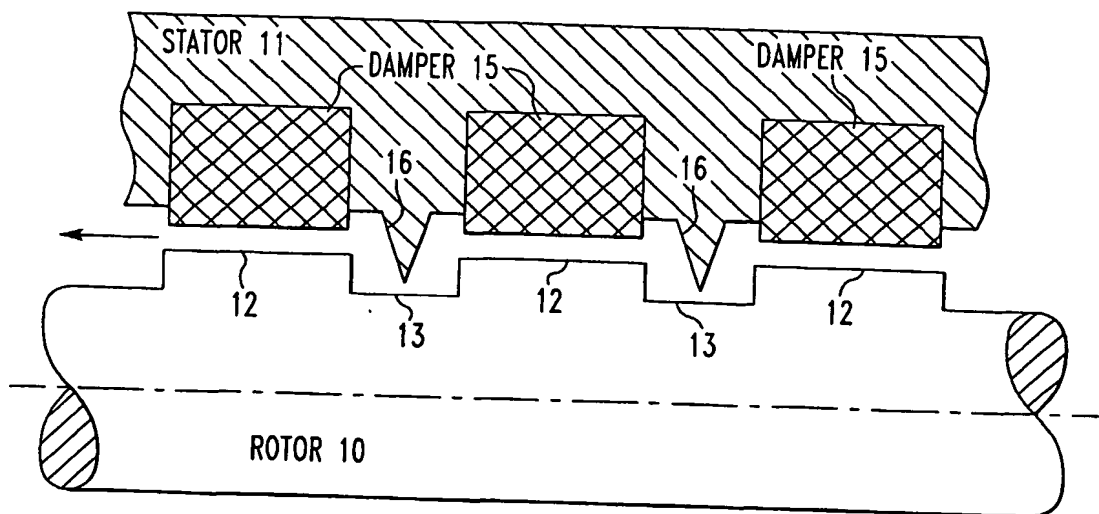
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(54) Title: **STEPPED LABYRINTH DAMPER SEAL**



(57) Abstract: An apparatus (Fig. 1) for restricting axial leakage flow through the clearance between a rotating shaft (10) and a seal stator (11) comprises a stepped shaft surface (12,13) and seal stator (11) having a plurality of damper sections (15) and being interleaved and adjacent.

**(57) Abstract:** An apparatus for restricting axial leakage flow through the clearance between a rotating shaft and a seal stator comprises a stepped shaft surface and seal stator having a plurality of damper sections and being interleaved and adjacent.